REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Khanna et al. (US 2006/0168311).

5 **Response:**

The applicant would like to point out how claims 1, 4, and 5 are patentable over Khanna.

Claim 1 recites the steps of "storing the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial
10   number into a basic input/output system (BIOS)" and "loading the MAC address or
the 1394 GUID serial number from the BIOS into an operational register of the NIC".
Claim 4 further specifies that "the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number
into a desktop management interface (DMI) region or an extended system
configuration data (ESCD) region of the BIOS". Similar to claim 1, claim 5 recites
15   the steps of "storing the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number into a
CMOS register" and "loading the MAC address or the 1394 GUID serial number
from the CMOS register into an operational register of the NIC device".

The advantage of the present invention is that the MAC address or the 1394
20   GUID serial number can be stored in an existing memory of a computer system, and
the network interface controller (NIC) does not need to dedicate memory to storing
this information.

The examiner has cited paragraphs [0012] and [0018] of Khanna as teaching the
25   claimed invention. Khanna states in paragraph [0012], lines 12-16 "When the
computer 100 is turned on, the BIOS instructions are executed by the computer
processor 102 to initialize and establish communication of the devices connected to

the system bus 104 (including the NIC 116)." Khanna goes on to say in paragraph [0018] that the ROM 108 storing the BIOS includes special routines and instructions that are able to control the NIC 116 and direct data transmitted through the NIC 116. However, nowhere does Khanna teach, suggest, or imply that the MAC address or

5   the 1394 GUID serial number is stored in the BIOS.

Khanna teaches in paragraph [0014] that the NIC 116 contains NIC memory units, which may include a RAM and a ROM. The ROM may store NIC application programs such as communication programs to control the network controller and the

10   NIC operations. Thus, the applicant submits that the MAC address is stored in the ROM of the NIC 116, and not in the BIOS as suggested by the Examiner.

Khanna goes on to say in paragraph [0020] that information on the hardware configuration of the NIC 116, including its MAC address and data structure, is

15   obtained from the NIC 116 and transferred to the RAM 110 to be used by the BIOS for communicating with the network 120. Khanna then repeats this information in paragraph [0027] and in step 210 of the flowchart shown in Fig.2.

Therefore, since Khanna teaches that hardware configuration data is read from

20   the NIC 116 and stored in the RAM 110 for use by the BIOS, the Applicant asserts that Khanna does not teach the claimed steps of storing the MAC address in the BIOS and then loading the MAC address from the BIOS into an operational register of the NIC.

25   For the reasons stated above, the Applicant submits that each of claims 1, 4, and 5 is patentable over Khanna since Khanna does not teach all of the limitations of these claims. Furthermore, claims 2-4, 6, and 7 are dependent on claims 1 and 6, and should be allowed if claims 1 and 5 are allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1-7 is
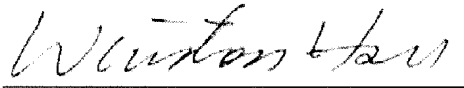
therefore respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this

case.

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Sincerely yours,

/Winston Hsu/   Date: _____ 12.19.2007 _____

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15   Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. (The time in D.C.

is 13 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 10 PM in Taiwan.)